A DELL COMIC

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NO. 3

APRIL-JUNE 10¢

M-G-M's

# Lassie

52 pages — ALL COMICS!

M-G-M'S LASSIE, No. 3, Apr.-June, 1951. Published quarterly by Dell Publishing Co., Inc., 261 Fifth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y.; George T. Delacorte, Jr., President; Helen Meyer, Vice-President; Albert P. Delacorte, Vice-President. Single copies, 10 cents. Designed, produced, and copyright, 1951, by Western Printing & Lithographing Co. Printed in U.S.A.

M-G-M'S

# LASSIE IN THE TREASURE HUNT

AT THE LAWRENCE PLANTATION ON THE ISLAND OF JAMAICA, EVERYBODY WAS IN A STATE OF EXCITEMENT. MR. LAWRENCE HAD JUST BROKEN THE NEWS THAT HE WAS SOON TO EMBARK ON A GREAT ADVENTURE. HE WAS ABOUT TO SET OUT ON A REAL TREASURE HUNT ON HIS BRAND-NEW, LARGE SEA-GOING YACHT, THE SPRITE II. ROCKY LANGFORD, GERRY AND BEN FIRED QUESTION AFTER QUESTION AT MR. LAWRENCE.

THE GIST OF OUR TALK WAS THAT HE WAS GOING TO BE A RICH MAN AS SOON AS HE HAD PUT ASIDE ENOUGH MONEY TO OUTFIT A SLOOP AND RETURN TO A PLACE WHERE HE HAD BEEN SHIPWRECKED.

BEACHCOMBING SURE ISN'T THE WAY OF EARNING A STAKE.

NO, ROCKY, I CAN ASSURE YOU I WAS HIGHLY SKEPTICAL, BUT THE MAN HAD CONVINCING EVIDENCE

A MAP, NO DOUBT?

BETTER THAN THAT, ROCKY! ANYWAY, HE AND TWO OF HIS FORMER SHIPMATES WILL BE HERE IN A FEW DAYS.

WELL, I BETTER PRACTICE UP ON MY DIVING. I WAS JUST GOING OUT TO DO SOME GOGGLE FISHING.

NO, LASSIE, YOU STAY BEHIND, OLD GIRL!

ARP! ARP! ARP!

LASSIE DOES NOT LIKE THE IDEA OF BEING LEFT ASHORE.

ROCKY GOT QUITE A SURPRISE WHEN ON ONE OF HIS DIVES, HE ENCOUNTERED A STRANGE FISH.

LASSIE, YOU OLD RASCAL, I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO STAY ON LAND

RAWFF-- RAWFF!

ROCKY! WATCH OUT! A SHARK TO STARBOARD!

BETTER GET YOU INTO THE BOAT PRONTO!

WROW!

ROCKY!

ROCKY! ROCKY!

THANK GOODNESS, ROCKY! YOU ARE SAFE!

WOOF-- RAR-- RAR!

GEE WHIZZ, ROCKY! YOU HAD ME SCARED STIFF

I REALLY WASN'T IN DANGER, GERRY THAT WASN'T A MAN-EATER!

W--WELL, H--HE W--WAS A GOOD IMITATION OF IT.

MOST OF THE SHARKS DON'T ATTACK HUMANS. THIS ONE WASN'T AFTER **ME**. HE WAS AFTER LASSIE HERE

GEE WHILLIKERS, **ANY** KIND OF SHARK SCARES ME!

WELL, HE DIDN'T GET LASSIE, BUT HE GOT MY SPEAR AND IT WAS A BRAND-NEW ONE.

WE CAN ALWAYS BUY A NEW ONE BUT NOT A NEW LASSIE.

NO, SIR! THERE IS ONLY **ONE** LASSIE!

I WONDER WHETHER YOUR FATHER WILL LET US TAKE LASSIE ALONG, GERRY?

I DOUBT IT, ROCKY IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG TRIP!

IF I CAN'T TAKE COMMANDO, I WON'T GO, EITHER

I'M AFRAID YOU WON'T ANYWAY. WHAT ABOUT SCHOOL, BEN?

PLEASE, DAD, LET LASSIE GO WITH US, PLEASE?

NO, GERRY, WE CAN'T. IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR TO LASSIE EITHER---

TO CONFINE HER ABOARD SHIP FOR SO LONG A TIME, AND BESIDES, ROCKY, YOU LOST HER ONCE IN A STORM!

YOU'RE RIGHT, MR. LAWRENCE. IT WILL BE BETTER FOR HER TO REMAIN HERE.

AND, BEN, YOU WILL HOLD THE FORT HERE WHILE WE'RE GONE, HUH? SOMEBODY'S GOT TO LOOK AFTER LASSIE AND COMMANDO AND THE OLD PLANTATION.

(G--G--GULP) YES, SIR!

I'VE GOT QUITE A FEW BOOKS AND MAPS OF THE REGION MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO READ UP ON IT.

DID THE MAN GIVE YOU THE POSITION, SIR?

JUST THE GENERAL LOCATION. HE SAID IT WAS OFF THE MOUTH OF THE AMAZON RIVER

OH, BOY, THAT'S ABOUT THE WILDEST PART AND LEAST-EXPLORED LAND LEFT IN THE WORLD, ISN'T IT?

IT'S EXPLORED AND MAPPED, BUT IT'S WILD ALL RIGHT--- AND HOT!

THE MOUTH OF THE RIVER IS TREMENDOUS, ROCKY

LOOK AT ALL THOSE ISLANDS, GERRY. I BET THE SUNKEN SHIP IS AROUND THERE SOME-WHERE

SORRY, LASSIE, I'LL MISS YOU BUT IT'S--- IT'S GOING TO BE THE GREATEST EXPERIENCE IN MY LIFE.

SAD BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO LEAVE LASSIE?

OH, IT'S YOU, GERRY. YES, I---

I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, ROCKY, BUT-- BUT I'LL BE ALONG I'LL---

YOU'LL BE--- MY LASSIE?

GERRY---YOU---

GROW-- OW-- OWW!

ROCKY LANGFORD! SO, THAT'S THE WAY YOU TREAT YOUR LASSIE?

SORRY, GERRY--- I--- I SHOULDN'T--- I GUESS IT WAS THAT MOON AND ALL THIS EXCITEMENT. CAN YOU FORGIVE ME?

OH--- MUSH! DID YOU SEE THAT, COMMANDO? HE KISSED HER!

I GUESS NOW HE'S GOING TO MARRY HER AND I'LL BET HE'S GOING TO FORGET ALL ABOUT US

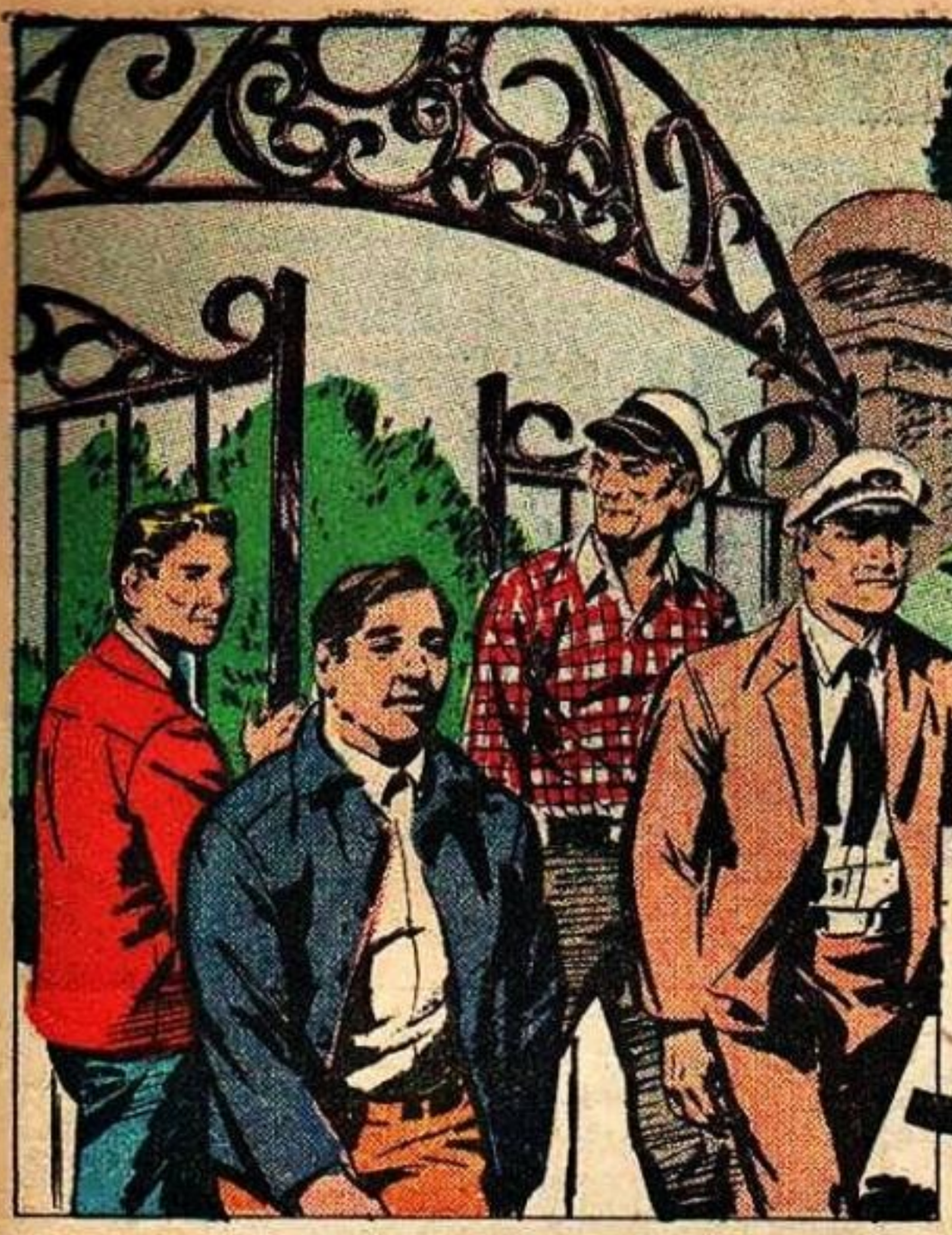
WHY DO PEOPLE HAVE TO GROW UP, HUH? WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO, AND I'M NEVER GOING TO LEAVE YOU, COMMANDO, NEVER!

GROW-OU-UFF-SSLUP!

STOP! STOP KISSING ME, COMMANDO STOP!

KISSING! BAH! MUSH!

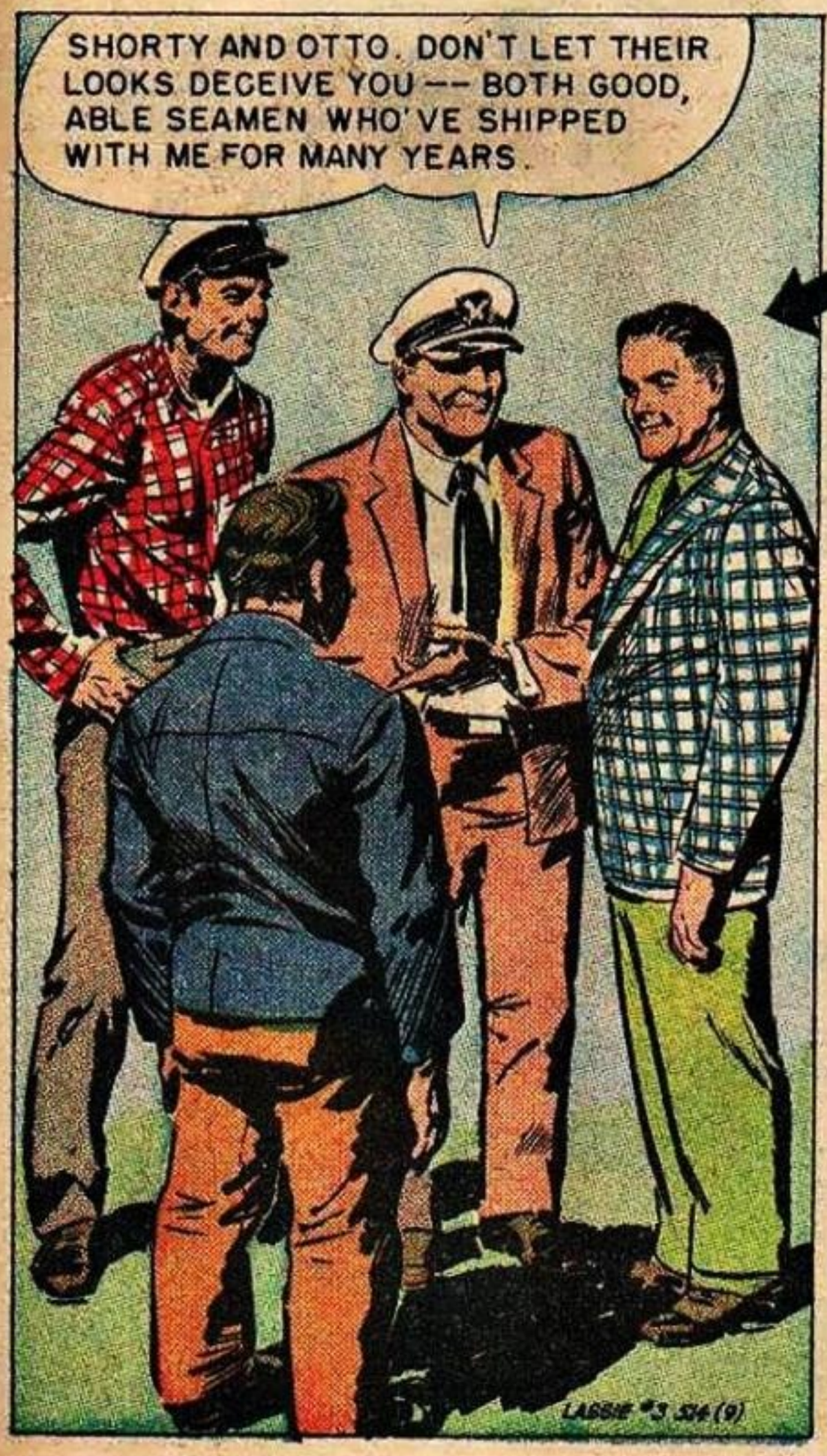
SEVERAL DAYS LATER, THREE MEN APPROACHED THE LAWRENCE PLANTATION. THE TWO SAILORS STILL HAD THE LOOK OF BEACH-COMBERS, BUT THE MATE HAD SPRUCED UP AND WORE HIS CAP ON A JAUNTY ANGLE.



REPORTING FOR DUTY, SIR!

WELCOME, MR. SLINGER. THESE YOUR TWO MEN YOU SPOKE ABOUT?

SHORTY AND OTTO. DON'T LET THEIR LOOKS DECEIVE YOU -- BOTH GOOD, ABLE SEAMEN WHO'VE SHIPPED WITH ME FOR MANY YEARS.



GLAD TO HAVE YOU AS MY CREW, MEN. THIS IS MY DAUGHTER, GERRY, AND ROCKY LANGFORD. BOTH WILL BE WITH US ON OUR VENTURE.

A WEEK LATER, EVERYTHING WAS READY FOR THE DEPARTURE. THE SPRITE II WAS AT THE LANDING.

WELL, GOOD-BYE, BEN! DON'T WORRY, WE'LL BE BACK BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.

CHIN UP, BEN. I'LL BRING BACK SOME WONDERFUL PRESENTS FOR YOU.

TAKE GOOD CARE OF LASSIE!

SPRITE II

GRR-ROW-RAWFF!

BUT NOTHING COULD STOP LASSIE. IF HER MASTER LEFT IN A SHIP, SHE WAS GOING TO BE WITH HIM EVEN IF SHE HAD TO SWIM ACROSS THE WHOLE ATLANTIC OCEAN.

STOP, LASSIE, STOP!

SPRITE II

WELL, IT LOOKS AS THOUGH LASSIE DOESN'T INTEND TO STAY AT HOME.

LASSIE, YOU SCAMP! I TOLD YOU TO STAY!

HERE, LASSIE, GET HOLD OF THE ROPE!

ARP! ARP!

HEY! CUT IT OUT!

LASSIE, STOP IT!

I'M SORRY, SIR. IT'S ALL MY FAULT! I SHOULD HAVE TIED HER UP.

YES, I GUESS IT'S YOUR FAULT THAT LASSIE IS SO LOYAL.

AND THAT BEING THE CASE, YOUNG MAN, I GUESS I'LL CHANGE MY MIND. LASSIE MAY STAY ABOARD!

POPS, YOU'RE TERRIFIC!

OH, MR. LAWRENCE, THANKS!

HELLO, BEN. ISN'T IT GREAT? MR. LAWRENCE SAID LASSIE CAN COME ALONG ON THE TRIP!

SO LONG, BEN! SO LONG, COMMANDO!

ARF! ARF!

GEE, WHIZ! (*GULP*) YEP, IT SURE IS!

WOOF! WOOF!

IT'S OKAY, COMMANDO. WHEN **WE'RE** GROWN UP, **WE'LL** GO ON A TRIP AND THEY'LL STAY HOME 'CAUSE THEY'LL BE **TOO OLD!**

WOOF! WOOF!

POOR BEN, I KNOW HE MUST FEEL AWFUL!

WE'LL MAKE IT UP TO HIM WHEN WE GET BACK, POOR THING.

BEFORE LONG, THE SPRITE II WAS OUT OF SIGHT OF LAND, SAILING ACROSS THE DEEP BLUE WATERS OF THE CARIBBEAN SEA.

LOOK, ROCKY! DOLPHINS! AREN'T THEY BEAUTIFUL?

WHAT SWIMMERS! THEY'RE REGULAR LIVING TORPEDOES!

HOW LONG TILL WE COME TO YOUR ISLANDS, MR. SLINGER?

HRRRUMPH!

HE'S THE MOST CLOSE-MOUTHED SKIPPER I EVER SAW. I DON'T THINK I LIKE THE GUY.

GUESS I'LL GO OVER THE DIVING EQUIPMENT AND SEE THAT EVERYTHING IS SHIPSHAPE.

CHECKING UP? ISN'T THERE SUPPOSED TO BE A SUIT TO GO WITH THE HELMET?

NOT FOR SHALLOW DIVING. MR. SLINGER TOLD YOUR DAD THAT THE WRECK LIES IN A DEPTH OF NO MORE THAN FOUR FATHOMS

THAT'S TWENTY-FOUR FEET, ISN'T IT?

YES, I COULD DIVE THAT DEEP WITH JUST MY GOGGLES BUT, OF COURSE, I COULDN'T STAY UNDER LONG!

WELL, ROCKY, IT WON'T BE LONG NOW I'M GLAD, TOO. BUT I DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH MY CREW

I FEEL THE SAME WAY, SIR. THEY'RE A SULLEN LOT.

IT'S FUNNY- THEY SHOULD BE CHEERFUL, SHOULDN'T THEY?

YOU HARDLY EVER SEE SHORTY OR OTTO, UNLESS THEY'VE GOT THEIR NOSES TOGETHER AND LOOK AT YOU AS IF THEY ARE TRYING TO KEEP A SECRET FROM YOU

OH, WELL, MAYBE IT'S THAT THEY DON'T TRUST US. TREASURE HUNTING DOES SOMETHING TO PEOPLE, THEY SAY.

BUT, POPS, YOU'RE FINANCING THE WHOLE THING.

MAYBE THERE ISN'T ANY TREASURE. HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT THAT?

I HAVE, BUT WHAT WOULD BE THE SENSE IN SENDING US ON A WILD-GOOSE CHASE? IT'S TOO LATE TO WORRY ANYWAY. SLINGER SAYS WE WILL REACH THE ISLANDS TOMORROW

SPRITE II

AFTER THREE WEEKS' STEADY CRUISING, THE SPRITE II APPROACHES HER GOAL. FIRST THE ISLAND SEEMS TO BE BUT A LOW CLOUD ON THE HORIZON, BUT SLOWLY MOUNTAINS AND CLIFFS BECOME VISIBLE AND GREAT BREAKERS INDICATE DANGEROUS REEFS.

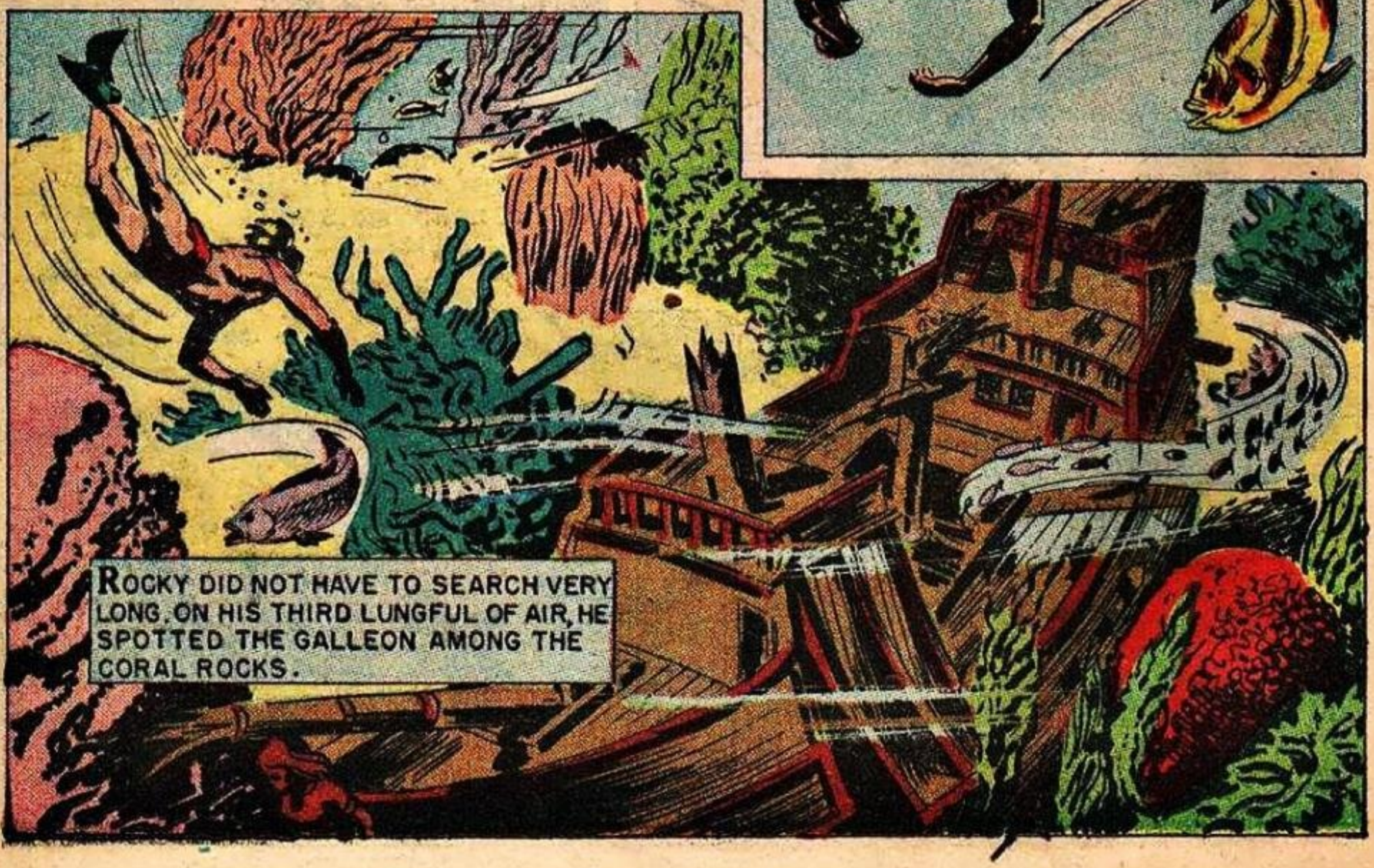
AND THERE, BEYOND THOSE BREAKERS, LIES THE SHIP UNLESS SOMEONE STOLE HER SINCE I SAW HER.

WELL, SLINGER, IF SHE SLEPT THERE FOR OVER THREE HUNDRED YEARS I GUESS SHE'LL STILL BE THERE!

DEAD RECKONING, SIR. THERE THEY ARE. TAHUNI AND BARANJA CHICA. BARANJA IS THE ONE THAT ONE TO STARBOARD.

WE'LL ANCHOR IN THIS SHELTERED COVE CLOSE TO THE WRECK. I HAVE THE LANDMARKS WELL IN MIND.

THERE WAS GREAT EXCITEMENT ABOARD THE SPRITE II ROCKY, IN TRUNKS AND DIVING GOGGLES, WAS EAGER TO LOCATE THE WRECK WITHOUT DELAY.



BOY, OH BOY! I'VE GOT IT SPOTTED SHE'S RIGHT DOWN BELOW ME!

WE'LL MARK IT WITH THIS BUOY AND BRING THE SPRITE UP TOMORROW MORNING.

GEE, I WISH I COULD GO DOWN NOW.

MR. LAWRENCE! WE FOUND HER!

SPRITE II

SHE'S AN ANCIENT SHIP ALL RIGHT, FROM HER LOOKS!

SO THEN IT'S REALLY TRUE!

THEN I WAS RIGHT AFTER ALL I WAS BEGINNING TO WONDER WHETHER I HAD ACTED RIGHT. THESE ARE LONELY WATERS.

MR. SLINGER, YOU KEPT YOUR WORD. SORRY I WAS SHORT WITH YOU THE OTHER DAY OR GAVE YOU THE IMPRESSION I MISTRUSTED YOU.

YEAH, SURE!

BE CAREFUL TOMORROW, ROCKY IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU, I'D---

GEE, GERRY, IT'S SWELL TO HAVE YOU WORRY ABOUT A LUG LIKE ME, BUT I'LL BE CAREFUL!

SPRITE II

GUESS IT'S TIME TO TURN IN. IT'LL BE A BUSY DAY TOMORROW.

GRROWG!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, LASSIE?

GRRROWL!

GRR-OWF!

SPLASH!

LASSIE, COME HERE! GOSH! THE FOOL DOG HAS FALLEN OVERBOARD.

LASSIE! WHAT---? I THOUGHT YOU'D JUMPED OFF!

GRO--ROWL!

I KNOW I HEARD A SPLASH JUST AFTER LASSIE RAN---

I HEARD IT MYSELF. WE'D BETTER CALL FATHER.

WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS?

WE HEARD SOMETHING OR SOMEBODY FALL OVER-BOARD. AT FIRST, WE THOUGHT IT WAS LASSIE.

WELL, IT WASN'T MR. LAWRENCE. THERE HE COMES NOW. OTTO AND SHORTY ARE SNORING IN THEIR BUNKS. MUST HAVE BEEN A FISH!

THE WAY LASSIE ACTED MAKES ME DOUBT THAT IT WAS A FISH. SOMETHING FUNNY GOING ON AROUND HERE.

SORRY ABOUT WAKING YOU UP, SIR, GUESS LASSIE AND I'D BETTER TURN IN.

SOON ALL THE LIGHTS WERE OUT BUT THE MOORING LIGHTS, AND THE SPRITE II RODE QUIETLY ON HER ANCHOR CHAINS.

EARLY IN THE MORNING, THE SPRITE II IS MOVED TO THE LOCATION OF THE WRECK.

AND SOON AFTER, ROCKY GETS READY FOR THE FIRST DIVE.

BE CAREFUL, ROCKY! PLEASE BE CAREFUL!

SAVE YOUR BREATH, TOOTS. HE CAN'T HEAR YOU!

SPRITE II

IF I HEAR YOU SPEAK TO MY DAUGHTER THAT WAY AGAIN, OTTO, I'LL---

AH, CAN IT. SLINGER IS MY SKIPPER. I'LL ONLY TAKE ORDERS FROM HIM.

THE CONFOUNDED--- I'LL----

DAD, PLEASE, NOT NOW, NOT WHILE ROCKY IS DOWN BELOW, PLEASE DON'T MAKE A FUSS NOW. OTTO IS ONLY AN IGNORANT SAILOR!

AS ROCKY CAME CLOSE TO THE WRECK OF THE OLD SPANISH GALLEON, HE FOUND IT IN REMARKABLY GOOD CONDITION.

IT WAS SPLIT OPEN, ALMOST IN THE CENTER, THROUGH ALL THE DECKS, SO ROCKY HAD NO TROUBLE ENTERING

IN A SHORT TIME, HE REAPPEARED AND SIGNALLED THAT HE WAS COMING UP TO THE SURFACE.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, ROCKY?

WELL, YOUNG MAN, WHAT HAVE YOU TO REPORT?

HAVE I GOT SOMETHING TO REPORT.? **WOW!**

**GOLD!** GOLD BY THE TON, IF THE OTHER STRONGBOXES ARE FILLED WITH THE SAME STUFF I FOUND IN ONE WHICH HAD BURST OPEN!

I'LL BE---

I KNEW I WAS RIGHT. IT WAS A TREASURE SHIP. WELL, SO FAR SO GOOD!

IT'S UNBELIEVABLE!

A SPECIAL PRESENT FOR YOU, GERRY, FROM MY VERY FIRST TRIP.

OH, ROCKY, IT'S BEAUTIFUL! IT'S PRICELESS!

JUST SOME OLD JUNK I PICKED UP FOR NOTHING, LADY. DON'T MENTION IT! I'LL DO BETTER NEXT TIME!

THE GALLEON IS ALMOST COMPLETELY FREE FROM SILT OR SAND BECAUSE IT RESTS ON HARD CORAL ROCK. THE SALVAGE JOB IS GOING TO BE VERY SIMPLE.

IT'LL TAKE A WHILE THOUGH. THE STRONGBOXES ARE MADE OF BRONZE AND WILL BE DIFFICULT TO OPEN

WITH OTTO AND SHORTY TAKING TURNS WITH YOU, IT SHOULD NOT TAKE MORE THAN A WEEK OR SO!

ALL DAY LONG THE DIVING CONTINUED. THE CONTENTS OF THE OPEN CHEST WERE ABOARD BY NIGHTFALL.

SUPPER TURNED INTO A CELEBRATION PARTY WHICH LASTED WAY INTO THE NIGHT.

GOOD NIGHT, EVERYBODY! I'M KIND OF TIRED AND WANT TO BE UP EARLY FOR THE FIRST SHIFT

GOOD NIGHT, LASSIE. WAKE ME UP BRIGHT AND EARLY.

WOOF!

DAWN IS JUST ABOUT TO BREAK, WHEN A LONGBOAT PULLS ALONGSIDE THE SPRITE II.

SILENTLY, A GROUP OF MEN CLIMB ABOARD...

BUT NOT SILENTLY ENOUGH. LASSIE STARTS UP AND GROWLS.

GR-RRROWL!

WHAT IS IT, LASSIE---?

I HEAR IT NOW MYSELF, LASSIE. SOMETHING IS GOING ON TOPSIDE. WE'LL GO AND SEE WHO'S UP SO EARLY!

A SCREAM! IT'S GERRY!

GROWRR!

WE'RE BOARDED!---

UP AND AT THEM, LASSIE! WE WON'T LET THEM STEAL OUR SHIP!

GRAB THAT BOY AND TIE HIM UP, MEN!

THEY'VE GOT TO GET ME FIRST!

ROCKY, PLEASE GIVE IN- IT'S NO USE!

THE TREACHEROUS, THIEVING BRUTES! WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN!

LET'S GIVE UP, LASSIE. BUT NOT TO THIS BUNCH OF CUTTHROATS.

GRRR RRR!

LET'S TAKE OUR MORNING SWIM!

STOP THAT SHOOTING! NO NEED TO KILL THE KID. HE'LL COME IN HANDY DOING THE DIVING FOR US!

OH, DAD! THEY'RE KILLING ROCKY!

IT'S ALL MY FAULT! ALL MY FAULT I SHOULD HAVE SEEN THROUGH THAT SCHEMING RAT, SLINGER

MAN THE LONGBOAT AND GO AFTER HIM, MEN! BRING HIM BACK BUT GET RID OF THAT BLASTED DOG!

AYE, AYE, SIR!

'GET A MOVE ON, OTTO!

HURRY UP, DOG-FACE! GET YOUR SKUMMY FEET OFF MY OAR!

PULL HARDER, BOYS, OR THAT BLASTED KID AND HIS DOG'LL MAKE THE BEACH BEFORE WE CATCH UP WITH 'EM.

HOW ABOUT TAKING A POT SHOT AT 'EM?

I'LL GET THAT DOG!

HOLD YOUR BREATH, LASSIE, AND LET'S SWIM UNDER WATER. FOLLOW ME!

ONLY COMING UP FOR QUICK GULPS OF AIR, ROCKY AND LASSIE COVER THE REST OF THE WAY UNDER WATER, CHANGING DIRECTION FREQUENTLY TO ELUDE THEIR PURSUERS.

WE MADE IT, LASSIE! WE MADE IT!

ROW--RR--WRUFF!

SLINGER'LL BE MADDER 'N HOPS

BAH! WE'LL GET 'EM YET.

THIS IS THE WAY THEY WENT. THE TRACKS ON THE ROCKS ARE STILL WET

GRR-RR-RR!

LASSIE! COME, LASSIE!

WITH A CRY OF PAIN, THE SAILOR STEPS BACKWARDS AND LOSES HIS FOOTHOLD.

WRUFF-- WOOF-- W-OOH!

LOOK AT THAT, LASSIE! ONE OF THE SAILORS MUST HAVE SLIPPED OFF THE CLIFF AND KNOCKED SOME OF HIS PALS DOWN. WELL, THAT'LL HOLD 'EM FOR A WHILE!

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME, LASSIE? SAY, WAIT A MINUTE, YOU'RE BLEEDING!

THANK GOODNESS, IT'S ONLY A SMALL CUT, LIKE FROM A KNIFE. WHERE'D YOU GET THAT?

WOOF!

WE'D BETTER FIND OURSELVES A GOOD HIDING PLACE

THEY'LL BE HUNTING FOR US FOR SURE SO LET'S FIND A SPOT WHERE WE CAN SEE WHAT GOES ON.

THIS IS IT! BOY, WHAT A VIEW! LOOK, THERE'S THE SPRITE!

I'LL HAVE TO PLAN WHAT TO DO NEXT. THOSE SAILORS WHO CAME IN THE LONGBOAT MUST HAVE COME FROM THE ISLAND THERE IS NO OTHER SHIP IN SIGHT.

I'LL HAVE TO FIND THEIR BASE IF SLINGER PLANNED TO TAKE OUR SHIP, THEN THEY DON'T HAVE ONE THEMSELVES. BUT HOW DID SLINGER GET OFF THE ISLAND OR GET IN TOUCH WITH THEM, IF THEY ARE SHIPWRECKED SAILORS MAROONED ON THIS ISLAND?

OH, WELL, IT'S A PUZZLE BUT WE'LL FIGURE IT OUT YET NOW WE'LL LOOK FOR A PLACE FOR THE NIGHT

ROCKY BUILT A SHELTER WHERE BOTH HE AND LASSIE SPENT THEIR FIRST NIGHT ON THE ISLAND

IN THE EARLY DAWN THEY WERE UP AND ROCKY AND LASSIE SET OUT TO EXPLORE THE ISLAND FURTHER.

IT'S LIKE BEING ROBINSON CRUSOE. IT WOULD BE FUN IF I WEREN'T SO WORRIED ABOUT GERRY AND MR. LAWRENCE.

WE'VE REACHED THE HIGHEST POINT OF THE ISLAND, LASSIE, OLD GIRL!

LOOK OVER THERE! SMOKE! I BET THAT'S WHERE THEY ARE! OVER YONDER IS OUR SHELTER. FROM THERE IT MUST BE ABOUT THREE OR FOUR MILES, NORTH, NORTH-EAST. OKAY, LET'S GO.

AFTER HOURS OF ROUGH GOING THROUGH THE TRAILLESS JUNGLE AND CROSSING DEEP, ROCK-STREWN GORGES, ROCKY AND LASSIE APPROACH THE RIDGE BEHIND WHICH THE SMOKE WAS STILL RISING.

WE WERE RIGHT! IT'S THEIR HIDE-OUT AND BY THE LOOKS OF IT, THEY'VE BEEN HERE FOR SOME TIME!

WITH GREAT CAUTION, ROCKY CRAWLED CLOSER, ANXIOUS TO OVERHEAR THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE TWO ROUGH-LOOKING SAILORS

SHE'S A GOOD-LOOKIN' WENCH AND IF SLINGER THINKS HE CAN KEEP HER ALL TO HIM-SELF HE'S GOT ANOTHER THINK COMIN', I SAY.

YOU BETTER KEEP YOUR OWN THINKS TO YO'SELF, SQUINTY. LEAST WAYS TILL AFTER THEY BRING HER AN' HER FATHER TO THE SHACK HERE TOMORROW.

AYE, THAT'LL BE A WELCOMED CHANGE AW-RIGHT, FROM WATCHIN' OL' CAPTAIN BRINE AN' THAT CHINK COOKIE

YEAH, UNLESS SLINGER CHANGES WATCH AN' MAKES US HELP WITH THE DIVIN' AN' WORK THAT CLASSY YACHT WE GOT NOW.

BLIMEY, WE'RE GOIN' TO BE REAL FANCY WHITE UNIFORMS, BRASS 'N' EVERYTHING. WON'T YOU LOOK SOMETHIN' IN A MONKEY-SUIT!

NOBODY'LL PUT ME IN NO MONKEY SUIT. NOT FOR ALL THE SPANISH GOLD, THEY WON'T!

SH---H—H
SH---H---
SHH---H!

GROW---RR--
GROW——

THE APPEARANCE OF A MOUNTAIN GOAT IS TOO MUCH FOR LASSIE HER HUNTING SPIRIT IS AROUSED

THERE'S THAT BLASTED DOG! GET YOUR RIFLE, QUICK!

FOR A MOMENT ROCKY IS TERRIFIED, BUT THE FAST-MOVING LASSIE MAKES A DIFFICULT TARGET. THEN, SEEING THE SAILORS LEAVING THEIR WATCH, HE CAUTIOUSLY APPROACHES THE WEATHER-BEATEN SHACK

FROM THEIR CONVERSATION, IT SEEMS THEY'RE HOLDING PRISONERS IN HERE'

OH--- HELLO!

WHERE DO YOU COME FROM, SON? I GATHER FROM THE PALAVER OF THOSE CUTTHROATS YOU ARE THE BOY FROM THE YACHT SLINGER TRICKED INTO COMING HERE.

HIM LOOK VELLY GOOD BOY.

I'M CAPTAIN BRINE, SON MY MATE, SLINGER, AND MY CREW, IF SUCH YOU CAN CALL IT, MUTINIED. NOW, I SEE THEY'VE TURNED PIRATES, TO BOOT

VELLY BAD PILATES.

LET ME CUT YOUR BONDS, CAPTAIN!

NO, SON, WE COULDN'T GET AWAY FAST ENOUGH. I'M TOO OLD A MAN BUT, THERE'S A RIFLE IN THAT BOX OVER THERE. TAKE IT

I SHALL BE BACK!

VELLY SHAHP KNIFE ON TABLE VELLY USEFUL.

I UNDERSTAND MR. LAWRENCE, AND HIS DAUGHTER WILL BE BROUGHT HERE TOMORROW WILL YOU TELL HIM, PLEASE, THAT I'M ALL RIGHT?

I WILL, SON BUT YOU'D BETTER GET GOING NOW. THERE'S A DOOR IN THE BACK!

FIELD GLASSES, JUST WHAT I NEED.

ROCKY LEFT NOT A SECOND TOO SOON. THE TWO SAILORS RETURNED AND RESUMED THEIR WATCH. THEIR DISAPPOINTMENT SHOWED THAT THEY HADN'T SHOT LASSIE.

SHE'LL FIND ME, I'M SURE. NOW, I'D BETTER GET BACK TO THE OBSERVATION POST.

THERE'S SLINGER. WONDER WHAT HE'S UP TO NOW? HE'S BEEN SHOOTING AT SOMETHING UP ON THE CLIFFS TO THE LEFT

I'LL BE DARNED! IT'S LASSIE!

WOOF!

ARF!

THE OLD GIRL IS SHOWING OFF

A FEW MINUTES LATER, LASSIE JOINS ROCKY. THIS HAD BEEN A FIELD DAY FOR HER. BETWEEN CHASING AND BEING CHASED, SHE REALLY HAD BEEN HAVING FUN AND SHOWED IT.

NOW I'VE GOT SOME PLANNING TO DO. TOMORROW THEY'LL BRING MR. LAWRENCE AND GERRY ASHORE. THE THING TO DO NOW IS TO KEEP A SHARP WATCH ON WHAT SLINGER AND HIS MEN ARE DOING AND BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOMETHING.

NO MORE CHASING, YOU HEAR? THEY MUST NOT SEE OR HEAR US!

WROOOOF!

NOW THAT I HAVE A RIFLE, I PROBABLY COULD PICK THEM OFF ONE BY ONE. BUT THAT WOULD BE LIKE COLD-BLOODED MURDER. NO! I'LL USE THE RIFLE ONLY IF THEY ATTACK ME OR LASSIE.

THE FIRST RAYS OF THE MORNING SUN FIND ROCKY ALREADY AT HIS OBSERVATION POST ABOUT AN HOUR LATER, THE LONGBOAT LEAVES THE SPRITE II, CARRYING MR. LAWRENCE AND GERRY ASHORE.

GOSH, THEY'RE SO CLOSE. IF I COULD ONLY DO SOMETHING. IF I COULD AT LEAST GET GERRY'S ATTENTION TO SHOW HER THAT I'M WATCHING.

FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS ROCKY OBSERVES THE ACTIVITIES ON THE SPRITE II. SLINGER'S MEN ARE BUSY WITH THE SALVAGING JOB FROM DAWN TO DUSK.

SEVERAL TIMES DURING THESE DAYS, ROCKY MADE TRIPS TO THE SAILOR'S SHACK. ON TWO OCCASIONS HE WAS ABLE TO CATCH A GLIMPSE OF GERRY. SO FAR THERE WERE NO SIGNS OF GERRY OR MR. LAWRENCE HAVING BEEN MISTREATED. HOWEVER, UP UNTIL NOW, SINCE NO OPPORTUNITY TO ACT HAD SHOWN ITSELF TO ROCKY, HIS IMPATIENCE GREW FROM DAY TO DAY.

ON THE NIGHT OF THE SEVENTH DAY, ROCKY OBSERVES UNUSAL COMMOTION ON THE SPRITE II. IT SEEMS TO BE A CELEBRATION. ROCKY MAKES UP HIS MIND TO DO SOMETHING NOW.

SILENTLY, ROCKY SWIMS OVER TO THE SPRITE II...

HE PULLS HIMSELF UP AND CROUCHES BESIDE THE DECKHOUSE AND LOOKS THROUGH THE OPEN PORTHOLE. HE HAS ARRIVED JUST IN TIME TO LISTEN TO A HEATED ARGUMENT.

AND I SAY IT'S STUPID TO LEAVE 'EM ALIVE ON THIS ISLAND. CUT THEIR THROATS, I SAY, AN' LEAVE NO WITNESSES.

OTTO IS RIGHT! KILL 'EM!

AND WHO'S IN COMMAND HERE, YOU WHARF RATS? YOU DO AS I SAY OR I'LL BEAT THE BLOOMIN' DAYLIGHTS OUT OF YOU. I SAY WE LEAVE TOMORROW MORNING AND THE PRISONERS WE'LL LEAVE BEHIND UNHARMED.

I'LL HAVE NO UNNECESSARY BLOOD ON MY HANDS. WE'VE GOT THE TREASURE AND THE YACHT. THAT'S WHAT WE WANTED!

THAT'S WHERE YE'RE WRONG, SLINGER. KILL 'EM, I SAY, AND THAT GOES FOR YOU, TOO!

GOSH! OTTO'S GOTTEN SLINGER. THEY'LL TRY TO GET GERRY AND HER FATHER TOMORROW MORNING.

I'VE GOT TO WORK VERY FAST NOW. THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE.

I HOPE THEY WON'T MISS THE DINGHY BUT WITH SLINGER DEAD, THEY'LL PROBABLY THINK HE LEFT IT ASHORE SOMEWHERE

THIS WILL CONCEAL IT IN CASE THEY SHOULD SEARCH FOR IT!

WE'VE GOT TO HURRY, LASSIE TONIGHT IS OUR ONLY CHANCE.

FIRST, WE'VE GOT TO GET THE GUARDS OUT OF THE WAY.

ALL RIGHT, LASSIE, DO YOUR STUFF!

WOOF-- WOOFF-- WOO-OH!

THERE'S THAT BLASTED DOG AGAIN!

WOO--- OOH!

OKAY, LASSIE, WE GOT THE FIRST ONE. GO GET THE OTHER!

WOOF- WOO-OO OOH!

'ATTA BABY! WE'VE GOT THE OTHER. THAT WAS A PERFECT JOB OF TIMING!

ROCKY! ROCKY!

WE'VE GOT THE GUARDS! IS EVERYBODY ALL RIGHT? I CAN'T EXPLAIN NOW. WE MUST MOVE AWAY FROM HERE FAST

GOOD WORK, SON!

ROCKY, MY BOY, WORDS FAIL ME!

WE'D BETTER GAG THEM, TOO, SO THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO CALL FOR HELP!

HE VELLY BAD. LEMME CHOP CHOP.

HERE IS MY PLAN! WE MUST HURRY BACK TO THE BEACH TO WATCH THAT NOBODY FROM THE SPRITE COMES ASHORE. IF ANYBODY SHOULD BEACH, WE MUST CAPTURE HIM WITHOUT MAKING ANY NOISE I'LL TELL YOU THE REST LATER.

OH, ROCKY, I'VE BEEN SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU

WHAT DO YOU THINK I DID ALL THESE DAYS? I NEARLY WENT CRAZY TRYING TO THINK OF WHAT I COULD DO TO RESCUE YOU!

HERE IS THE REST OF THE PLAN. AT DAWN, THE WHOLE CREW, OR MOST OF THEM, WILL COME ASHORE TO GET THEIR THINGS, AND TO KILL YOU AS THEY'VE DECIDED TO DO.

THE BLOODY PIRATES! TO THINK THAT I ---

DO YOU THINK WE HAVE A CHANCE AGAINST SO MANY?

THEN I'LL TRY TO TAKE AWAY THEIR LONGBOAT ---THEIR ONLY WAY TO PURSUE US BACK TO THE SPRITE.

BY CHRISTOPHER, THAT'S AN EXCELLENT IDEA!

SMART THINKING, SON.

I COUNTED THEM. THEY DIDN'T LEAVE A SINGLE MAN ABOARD. NOW I'M LEAVING FOR THE TRAIL TO THE SHACK. AS SOON AS YOU HEAR MY SHOTS, MAKE FOR THE DINGHY AND ROW TO THE SPRITE.

NOT IN AN OPEN FIGHT. WHAT I WANT TO DO IS DRAW THEM AWAY FROM THE SHORE IN A HURRY SO THAT YOU ALL CAN GET OFF IN THE DINGHY WHICH I CONCEALED FURTHER UP ON THE BEACH.

AFTER MANY ANXIOUS HOURS OF WAITING, DAWN BREAKS. AS ROCKY PREDICTED, THE LONGBOAT LEAVES THE SPRITE II.

I'M GOING WITH YOU, ROCKY.

PLEASE, SIR, I MUST DO IT ALONE. I KNOW EVERY INCH OF THE WAY. IF WE SHOULD BE SEPARATED, ALL WOULD BE LOST. I ASSURE YOU I WON'T BE IN ANY DANGER!

THE LONGBOAT HITS THE BEACH, AND AS THE HARD-BITTEN MEMBERS OF THE CREW LEAP ASHORE, THEY HEAR RIFLE SHOTS COMING FROM THE DIRECTION OF THEIR SHACK

WHAM! BANG!

RUN FASTER, YOU LUGS! IF THEY'RE FREE, WE'VE GOT TO GET THEM BEFORE THEY CAN ESCAPE AND HIDE ON THE BLASTED ISLAND.

DON'T GIVE 'EM QUARTER, BOYS! SHOOT DOWN EVERY ONE OF 'EM, BUT THE GIRL.

PHEW! I'M ALL OUT OF BREATH. THANKS, COOKIE, FOR HELPING ME!

OKEEDOKEE, LOCKY!

VELLY GOOD WORK!

BOY, THAT WAS CUTTING IT FINE. I DIDN'T THINK THEY'D GET BACK THAT QUICK.

BAD SAILEES VELLY MAD!

ROCKY, YOU PULLED IT OFF! WE ARE FOREVER IN DEBT TO YOU, NOT ONLY FOR OUR FREEDOM, BUT ALSO FOR OUR LIVES.

OH, GEE, MR. LAWRENCE, I GOT A GREAT KICK OUT OF IT. I NEVER HAD SO MUCH FUN AND EXCITEMENT IN MY LIFE.

WELL, SON, YOU DID MORE THAN A MAN-SIZED JOB!

IF OTTO HADN'T CARVED UP SLINGER, WE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS FIX!

LET ME AT HIM!

LET'S HANG HIM ON THAT PALM TREE!

I'M SURE GLAD TO FEEL A DECK UNDER MY FEET AGAIN, MR LAWRENCE. IT'S BEEN OVER A YEAR SINCE MY SHIP WENT DOWN BESIDE THAT OLD SPANISH WRECK. THEY HAD ME TIED UP NEARLY SIX MONTHS WHEN SLINGER, OTTO AND SHORTY WENT OFF IN THE SECOND LIFEBOAT TO LOOK FOR A RESCUE SHIP!

WELL, SLINGER GOT HIS JUST REWARD——— WONDER WHAT THEY DID WITH HIS BODY

PROBABLY HEAVED IT OVERBOARD!

LOOK, CAPTAIN, A BLOODY HANDPRINT!

LOOKS LIKE SLINGER CRAWLED TOWARD———

BY GEORGE, HE'S ALIVE!

THAT'S THE FIRST BAD NEWS WE'VE HAD TODAY!

I UNDERSTAND FROM ROCKY THAT YOU DIDN'T WANT TO SEE US KILLED. FOR THAT WE'LL DO OUR BEST TO SAVE YOUR LIFE, BUT YOU'LL SPEND A GOOD PART OF IT IN JAIL!

WELL, SLINGER, IT'S A NASTY WOUND BUT THE KNIFE GLANCED OFF THE RIBS. YOU'LL LIVE. YOU'LL LIVE TO STAND TRIAL TOGETHER WITH THE CREW, ONCE WE HAVE THEM PICKED UP

I'D BETTER GET BACK TO THE WHEEL.

FIRST, LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE TREASURE.

WELL, I'LL BE!

ROCKY! GERRY! COME HERE!

THE TREASURE OF MONTEZUMA!

IT'S AN UNBELIEVABLE FORTUNE!

IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR YOU, ROCKY, WE WOULDN'T BE HERE TO SEE IT.

GEE--- WHIZZ!

AND FOR THAT REASON, MY SHARE GOES TO YOU.

HURRAY!

OH, NO, NO! BUT ON SECOND THOUGHT, I'LL ACCEPT--- ONLY---

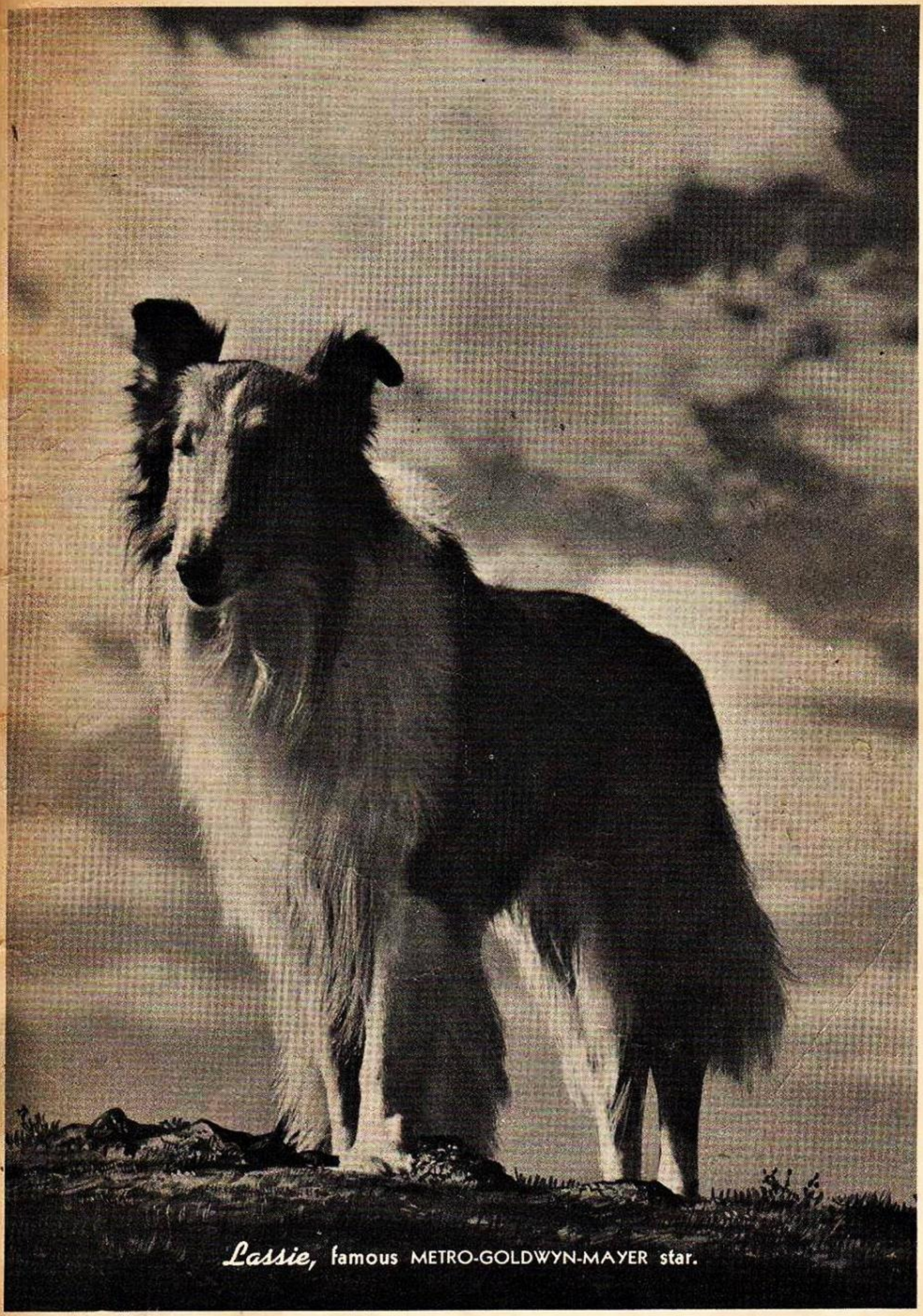
I GIVE MY SHARE TO GERRY!

WHAT? OH! ALL RIGHT, I'LL ACCEPT. I'M SURE IT'S GOING TO REMAIN IN THE SAME FAMILY.

YOU'VE THROWN ALL THE BOUQUETS AT ME, BUT HOW ABOUT GIVING LASSIE HER DUE? WITHOUT HER, I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT.

LET'S HAVE A BIG CELEBRATION FOR LASSIE AND ROCKY.

THAT'S A WONDERFUL IDEA!



*Lassie,* famous METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER star.